REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 1-7 and 9-26 are pending. In the final Office action dated May 21, 2004 ["Office action"], claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,005,927 to Rahrer et al. ["Rahrer"] in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,393,296 to Sabnani et al. ["Sabnani"]. Claims 15, 20, and 24 were rejected as being unpatentable over Rahrer in view of Sabnani and U.S. Patent No. 5,761,279 to Bierman et al. ["Bierman"].

I.   Rahrer and Sabnani

With the goal of reaching a shared understanding of the disclosures of Rahrer and Sabnani, Applicants make the following observations.

Rahrer describes systems for maintaining and updating telephone directories. [Rahrer, Abstract.] Rahrer describes using calling line identification ["CLID"] information in various ways, including displaying a caller's name and telephone number on a LCD display 36, and maintaining and updating a telephone directory. [Rahrer, 2:13-16, 2:61-4:48, 6:1-16, 6:30-38, 9:18-10:14.] The CLID information is received by a CLID receiver 30 from a central office node of the network using one of several different mechanisms that depend on the particular service (e.g., CLASS, SMS) offered by a provider or subscribed to by the CLID receiver 30. [Rahrer, 6:1-16, 18:18-36.] The CLID receiver 30 may include a voice mail service to store CLID information after the CLID information has been received. [Rahrer, 6:9-11.]

Sabnani describes email access from a cellular telephone. [Sabnani, 1:5-7.] For example, Sabnani describes a technique of accessing a text file, selecting a message, formatting the selected message with a network resident user agent, and sending the formatted message to a cellular telephone. [Sabnani, Abstract, 1:46-52.] More specifically, the cellular telephone may include an alphanumeric display and send/receive short message service ["SMS"] messages. [Sabnani, 2:18-21.] For email access from the cellular telephone, it is determined if a display is available for use on the cellular telephone. [Sabnani, 2:26-29.] If a display is available and to be used, the leading part of the email message is sent by SMS and displayed. [Sabnani, 2:29-31.] Otherwise, the message is converted to speech and sent as speech. [Sabnani, 2:31-34.]

II.   The rejections of claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26 should be withdrawn.

The rejections of claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26 should be withdrawn because the combination of Rahrer and Sabnani made by the Examiner to reject these claims is improper. Moreover, Rahrer and Sabnani, taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of each of claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26.

A.   The Examiner's combination of Rahrer and Sabnani is improper.

In rejecting claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26, the Examiner applied "the teaching of Sabnani et al. to the system and method of Rahrer to provide visible or audible information of the caller to the user." [Office action, page 3.] The Examiner's modification of Rahrer is improper because it renders Rahrer unsatisfactory for its intended purpose and changes the principle of operation of Rahrer. [MPEP 2143.01, "THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION CANNOT RENDER THE PRIOR ART UNSATISFACTORY FOR ITS INTENDED PURPOSE," "THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION CANNOT CHANGE THE PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION OF A REFERENCE."]

Sabnani describes selecting a message and either (a) formatting the message for SMS delivery and sending the message by SMS, or (b) converting the message to speech and sending the message as speech. [Sabnani, 2:26-34.] The Examiner applies this part of Sabnani to delivery of CLID information in Rahrer [Office action, page 3], which is improper.

Rahrer describes several mechanisms for delivery of caller ID information, including SMS and CLASS service. [Rahrer, 6:1-16.] SMS is an alphanumeric messaging service. CLASS is a set of services that follow established protocols. Suppose (for the sake of argument) that CLID information in Rahrer could be converted to speech. The speech data for the CLID information cannot simply be delivered via the SMS or CLASS mechanisms in Rahrer. So, also suppose (for the sake of argument) that Rahrer could be modified to deliver CLID information as speech over a speech connection.

Even if Rahrer could be so modified, there is no mechanism described in Rahrer (or Sabnani) for timely playing CLID speech to a callee. CLID information is supposed to help a callee decide whether or not to set up a speech connection for a call. Playback of the CLID speech, however, would itself involve setting up a speech connection.

Moreover, even if Rahrer could be so modified, there is no mechanism described in Rahrer (or Sabnani) for changing the CLID speech back to a format usable for maintaining and updating a telephone directory. Maintaining/updating a telephone directory is the main focus of Rahrer. [Rahrer, 2:13-16, 2:61-4:48, 6:1-16, 6:30-38, 9:18-10:14.] The Examiner's modification thus renders Rahrer unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, and similarly changes the principle of operation of Rahrer.

Claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26 should be allowable.

B.   Rahrer and Sabnani, taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of each of claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26, respectively.

Claim 1, as amended, recites:

an algorithm engine in communication with the computer processor for selectively adjusting the received information based at least in part on the display characteristics of the second device, wherein when the computer processor determines that the received information is not in the recognizable display format, the algorithm engine adjusts the received information to the recognizable display format and the receiving point forwards the correctly formatted information to the second device.

Claim 6 recites:

searching a set of algorithms for a correct display format if it is determined that the information is not in the recognizable format;

Claim 12, as amended, recites:

if necessary to correct the display of the information by the second device, adjusting the information based at least in part on the display characteristics of the second device, wherein the adjusting includes selecting between multiple display formats for the information;

Rahrer and Sabnani, taken separately or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively.

The Examiner appears to acknowledge that Rahrer does not teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively. [Office action, page 3.] Instead, the Examiner opines:

Sabnani et al. disclose determining whether the received information is in a format recognizable for correct display by a second device (*display available or not*), wherein the determining is based at least in part on consideration of display characteristics of the second device; and selectively adjusting the received information (*text or speech*) based at least in part of the display characteristics of the second device (citation omitted). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teachings of Sabnani et al. to the system and method of Rahrer to provide visible or audible information of the caller to the user.

[Office action, page 3 (emphasis added).] Sabnani describes determining whether or not a display is available on a cellular telephone [Sabnani, 2:26-29] and sending an email message by SMS or as speech [Sabnani, 2:31-34]. Sabnani fails to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively, for at least the following two reasons.

First, simply determining whether or not a display is available (as in Sabnani) involves checking for the presence/absence of display hardware, not a "display format" as recited in claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively.

Second, according to Sabnani, when a display is not available, the email message is converted to and sent as speech. Converting to speech when there is a problem with display (as in Sabnani) leads away from "when the computer processor determines that the received information is not in the recognizable display format, the algorithm engine adjusts the received information to the recognizable *display* format" (as recited in claim 1). It also leads away from "searching a set of algorithms for a correct *display* format if it is determined that the information is not in the recognizable format" (as recited in claim 6) and "wherein the adjusting includes selecting between multiple *display* formats for the information" (as recited in claim 12).

Claims 1, 6 and 12 should be allowable. In view of the foregoing discussion of claims 1, 6, and 12, Applicants will not belabor the merits of the separate patentability of dependent claims 2-5, 7, 9-11, 13, 14, 16-19, 21-23, 25, and 26. These dependent claims should also be allowable.

III.   The rejections of claims 15, 20, and 24 should be withdrawn.

The rejections of claims 15, 20, and 24 should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons.

First, the Examiner's combination of Rahrer, Sabnani, and Bierman to reject these claims is improper. As described in the section II.A, the Examiner's combination of Rahrer and

Sabnani is improper. For at least that reason, the combination of Rahrer, Sabnani, and Bierman is also improper.

Second, Rahrer, Sabnani, and Bierman, taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of each of claims 15, 20, and 24, respectively. Claims 15, 20, and 24 include the language of independent claims 12, 1, and 6, respectively. As described in section II.B, Rahrer and Sabnani, taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of each of claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively. Bierman, taken separately or in combination with Rahrer and Sabnani, also fails to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively. Bierman describes displaying graphic information such as a facial representation on a communications terminal. [Bierman, Abstract.] A calling party's telephone number and name are optionally sent to a called party's terminal together with the facial representation. [Bierman, 4:31-34.] Bierman does not teach or suggest, however, the above-cited language of claims 1, 6, and 12, respectively.

IV. Miscellaneous

Applicants submitted formal drawings on May 10, 2001, but the Office action does not address the formal drawings. Please indicate whether the formal drawings are acceptable.
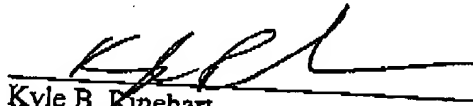
CONCLUSION

Claims 1-7 and 9-26 should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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